

Flex static code analysis: Empty statements should be removed

2 minutes

Empty statements, i.e. `;`, are usually introduced by mistake, for example because:

- It was meant to be replaced by an actual statement, but this was forgotten.
- There was a typo which lead the semicolon to be doubled, i.e. `;;`.

Noncompliant Code Example

```
function doSomething():void {  
    ; // Noncompliant - was used as  
    a kind of TODO marker  
}  
  
function doSomethingElse():void {  
    trace("Hello, world!"); // Noncompliant - double ;  
    ...  
    for (var i:int = 0; i < 3; trace(i), i++); // Noncompliant - Rarely,  
    they are used on purpose as the body of a loop. It is a bad practice  
    to have side-effects outside of the loop body  
    ...  
}
```

Compliant Solution

```
function doSomething():void {}  
  
function doSomethingElse():void {  
    trace("Hello, world!");  
    ...  
    for (var i:int = 0; i < 3; i++){  
        trace(i);  
    }  
    ...  
}
```

See

- [CERT, MSC12-C](#). - Detect and remove code that has no effect or is never executed
- [CERT, MSC51-J](#). - Do not place a semicolon immediately following an if, for, or while condition
- [CERT, EXP15-C](#). - Do not place a semicolon on the same line as an if, for, or while statement